



Critical Thinking and Writing



Drawing Conclusions

The chart below shows population figures for the 10 largest cities in the United States in 1860. It also includes the figures for those cities in 1820 and 1840. Study the chart, and review what you have learned in Chapter 13 about the growth of the country. Then answer the questions that follow.

City	Population		
	1820	1840	1860
New York City	123,706	312,710	813,669
Philadelphia	112,772	220,423	565,529
Baltimore	62,738	102,313	212,418
Boston	43,298	101,383	177,840
New Orleans	27,176	92,193	168,675
Cincinnati	9,642	46,338	161,044
Pittsburgh	7,248	21,115	77,923
St. Louis	4,508	16,469	160,773
Buffalo	2,095	18,213	81,129
Chicago	—	4,853	109,260

- Turn to the map on text pages 900–901. In which parts of the country are the cities above located? _____

- No population figure is given for Chicago in 1820. Explain why that might be. _____

- Today, the 10 largest cities in the United States include Los Angeles, California; Houston, Texas; and Phoenix, Arizona. Why do you think those cities are not listed in the chart above? _____

- What trend does the chart show for all the cities? _____

- Based on the chart, what conclusions can you draw about why thousands of Americans moved west in the mid-1800s? _____
